

U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys in the Republic of Korea is undergoing one of the largest transformations in the history of the Army. It's also well on the way to becoming the Army's premier place to live, work and play, said Brig. Gen. Al Aycock, director of Installation Management Command-Korea Region.

Since the decision to relocate all of U.S. Forces Korea south of Seoul, the ROK capital, the once-small Camp Humphreys is rapidly changing, he said. By 2012, Camp Humphreys will be USFK's new home. Located in Pyeongtaek, about 55 miles south of Seoul, USAG Humphreys is home to the 2nd Infantry Division's 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, military intelligence units and several other organizations.

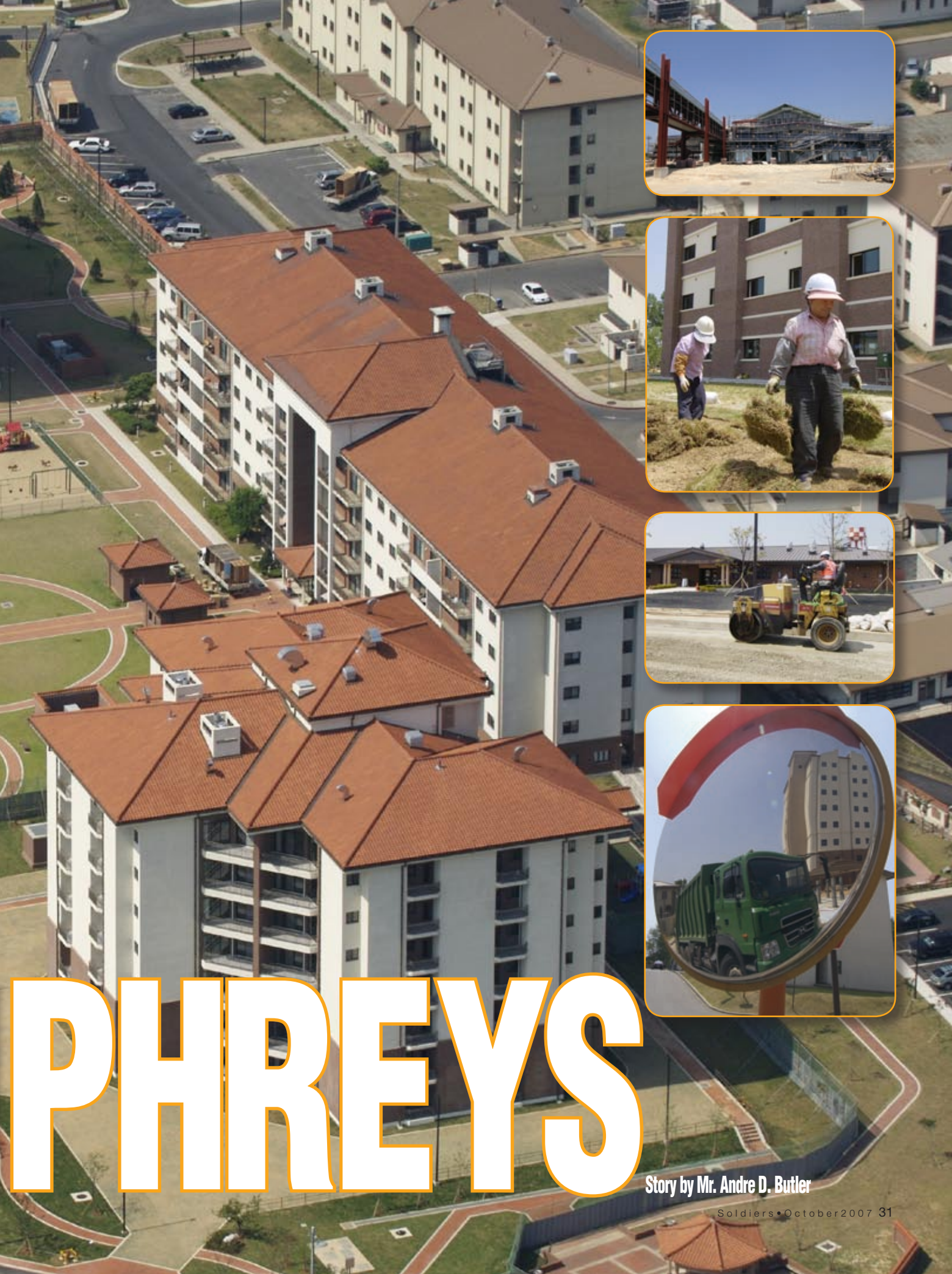
The current installation population of some 10,000 — about 3,500 Soldiers, the rest civilian employees, family members and contractors — will grow to more than 44,000 by 2012, Brig. Gen. Aycock said.

The increase will include 17,000 servicemembers and

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Big Changes for

CAMP HUM



PHREYS

Story by Mr. Andre D. Butler

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13,000 family members. The garrison will also see a substantial increase in the number of Army civilians, Korean employees and contractors.

Relocation Plan

The plan to realign USFK and transform Humphreys has been in the works since 2002, said Mr. Fred Davis, program manager for the Army Relocation Office at USAG Humphreys.

“We are accruing 2,320 acres from the Korean government and are now implementing construction plans for the upgrade,” Mr. Davis said.

“To support the realignment of U.S. forces, the Republic of Korea has committed significant resources to acquiring land for the relocation

▲ One of several new athletic facilities under construction at Camp Humphreys, the new “Super Gym” will house a pool, three basketball courts, a running track, a weight room and locker rooms.

of our current Yongsan Garrison in Seoul and the 2nd Infantry Division north of Seoul,” said USFK commander Gen. B.B. Bell. “This has not been politically easy, and the efforts of the Republic of Korea government and Ministry of National Defense deserve recognition.

“Under the Yongsan Relocation Plan and the Land Partnership Program, and in accordance with our ROK-U.S. Status-of-Forces Agreement, the United States returns vacated camp facilities, capital investments and land to the ROK, while consolidating into two main hubs south of Seoul,” Gen. Bell said.

“When the transformation is complete, we will have returned 59 camps and all their facilities and buildings. Thus far, 30 camps have been returned. Our forces will be in a much better position to support the

▲ The ongoing transformation of Camp Humphreys will further enhance bilateral U.S.-ROK training opportunities, such as this airdrop exercise by ROK troops.

▲ The transformation will also enhance the operational capabilities of such resident U.S. units as the 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade.





defense of the ROK and U.S. national interests,” Gen. Bell added.

Normalization of Tours

The USAG Humphreys Real Property Master Plan is another intricate part of the Humphreys transformation. It is the “blueprint” that outlines the land, buildings and facilities required to support relocation missions.

Gen. Bell’s vision is to provide stable tours for married and single servicemembers, and world-class support facilities to make Soldiers’ tours personally and professionally rewarding. This will be achieved by constructing state-of-the-art family housing and support facilities.

Brig. Gen. Aycock said Camp Humphreys is well on its way to becoming one of the Army’s premier centers of readiness and support.

“It is paramount that we provide the best support possible for our

▲ The camp’s new, first-class child-development center will ensure a safe, modern and efficient environment for more than 300 children.

► New multi-story single-Soldier housing units are replacing earlier Quonset huts, and provide safe, modern living space.

Soldiers and their families. They deserve it, and we are committed to making this a world-class installation — planned from start to finish with Soldiers and families in mind,” Gen. Aycock added.

Building Up, Instead of Out

Although Humphreys will span about 3,500 acres by 2012, the land area will not support a massive sprawl of buildings as are common at posts in the continental United States. Therefore, building up instead of out is the construction philosophy.

Family housing units and barracks will be multi-story buildings, as will many of the other new facilities on post, said Vince Grewatz, chief



The USAG Humphreys Real Property Master Plan is the “blueprint” for the post’s transformation.

of Installation Management Command-Korea Region's Public Works Division.

"We are creating a new city from the ground up," said Mr. Davis. "It's not every day that you are charged with a project of this magnitude. So our goal is to build a model Army community that will be unlike any other the military has seen. This project is an estimated \$8.25 billion deal — larger than any project that's on the table in the States today."

"We are building residential, vehicle-maintenance and company-operations complexes. They will include barracks, dining facilities and recreational centers — all within walking distance of the Soldiers' new worksites," said Mr. Bart Mirabal, director of USAG Humphreys' Directorate of Public Works.

"Six new state-of-the-art gyms are also being constructed throughout the installation," Mr. Davis said.

Additionally, schools will be located within the community in which families live. This will make attendance safer and more convenient for students. Three elementary schools, one middle school and one high school are scheduled to be built.

One facility that is already open for business is the aquatics park dubbed "Splish & Splash." It is the only one of its kind open to servicemembers, civilian employees and family members throughout the



Korean peninsula. The park was specifically designed by IMCOM-Korea to provide the family fun available at popular water parks in the States.

The Master Plan also calls for construction of an 18-hole golf course that includes jogging, biking and walking trails.

Not Your Father's Korea

As the master plan for the future of Camp Humphreys took shape, officials said the post would be unrecognizable to Soldiers who served in Korea during the times of Quonset huts and one-year tours.

"Quality of life here will flourish," said Mr. Mirabal. "A new child-development center is already underway. We are building more chapels for the expected population — and leaving open fields for families to enjoy however they please," he said.

USAG Humphreys will build a new commissary and post exchange

▲ Opened in summer 2007, the popular "Splish & Splash" water park provides all the excitement and safety of similar parks in the United States.

shopping complex, and a food, beverage and entertainment center. And, the existing downtown shopping area is getting a facelift, Mr. Mirabal said.

"There will also be smaller shopping centers within individual housing communities," he said.

USAG Humphreys commander Col. John Dumoulin Jr. summed up the Humphreys transformation.

"We are taking what used to be a single-Soldier post and transforming it into a family and pedestrian-friendly community. Soldiers will be able to walk to work, and their children will be able to walk to school," he said.

One thing that will not change with the Humphreys transformation is the garrison's philosophy.

"We will continue to provide world-class customer service for our Soldiers, families, civilians and retirees," Col. Dumoulin said. 🇺🇸



AMERICAN Forces Network-Korea provides daily radio and television programming to a target audience of some 50,000 joint-service members of U.S. Forces, Korea, Defense Department civilians, family members and retirees.

"One of the biggest services we provide is command information," said J. Douglas Griffin, AFN-K's director of broadcasting. "Those are the messages that commanders feel are important to get to their troops."

AFN-K's radio and TV programming combines live shows that focus solely on news from Korea with satellite feeds from the Defense Media Center in Riverside, Calif., Mr. Griffin said.

AFN-K newscasts come together with input from five broadcast detachments, or affiliates, located across the Korean peninsula, said Airman First Class Peter Mellon, a broadcast producer and host of one of AFN-K's FM radio programs.

Each AFN-K detachment covers a specific area of the Korean peninsula for television and does its own local radio broadcasts. — Heike Hasenauer